

Charter Review Commission February 9, 2017 Summary Minutes

Charter Review Members present: Ron Balbier; Fran Barrett; Ronald Campbell; Carl Ethridge; Denise Folger; Dick Kistemaker; Jerry Hayes; Thomas Hites

Absent: Sue Grodek

Also Present: Law Director Kevin Butler; Jill Ludwig

Members of the Public Present: Kathy Pucci-Councilperson

All members present took the Oath of Office read by Dir. Butler

The Minutes of February 1, 2017 were approved by the Commission

Chairman Balbier opened up the meeting for discussion and comments

There was discussion of a potential conflict of interest. Chairman Balbier's wife is a Councilperson. The question was asked of Dir. Butler if this was a potential perceived conflict of interest. Dir. Butler said there was not a conflict. There was brief discussion of family and friend relationships as it pertains to city business

There was discussion of the dates in the Charter referencing 1951, 1952; township to city

Discussion of Article 3 Section 2 – State militia, reserve corps – these are dated terms – can we use modern terminology.

Discussion of Article 3 Section 2 - resident of 3 years serving as elected official. There was mention of the Model Charter

Discussion Article 3 Section 2-regrading placement of a comma and if it changed the meaning of the sentence. Discussed who can hold office. Elected office – precinct committee person

Member of the Public spoke. She referenced the issue of the comma

Discussion of Article 3 Section 3 of expelling a member of council – council decides what misconduct is. What is considered a justifiable excuse for missing meetings and who determines it?

Article 3 Section 4 – poorly worded. What does "Such election mean?" subsection A – 120 days – ties it to the filing deadline. Is "such election" immediate or after vacancy or after 2 years? Vacancies need clarification. "Such Election" is confusing.

Discussion of 1951reference of council members serving different terms – 4 years and 2 years – what is the basis?

Discussion of reference 1952 – Council shall determine – make it determined past tense. Written in 1951 shows prospective to 1952

Misc Section 3 Article 1 all acts of council of the municipality in effect December 31, 1951 shall continue – need ratification

Discussion that historical reference does not affect Charter

Dir. Butler said that the Charter is a guide a roadmap on how to govern the city. The Charter guides future councils

Question was asked of the member of the Public if Council set meetings – it was said that council sets it first meeting in January on the 1st Monday in January and sets meeting schedule. Council follows the Rules of Council Ordinance

Discussion on how to put proposed charter amendments on ballot – list each one separately or have one overall ballot issue

Member of the Public Kathy Pucci said she will submit a letter to Charter Review Commission for consideration

General Provisions – Section 8 discussion of front footage of property

Organization Section 6 – discussion of Council shall elect president of council and members of various boards. Discussion of how to elect council president – how to break a tie

Dir. Butler gave the Ohio Ethics Opinion Ruling on voting on council president

Discussion of how to possibly vote for council president – is it the most votes? If there is a tie does seniority win? Keep council separate from mayor regarding an appointment of council president. Maybe elect council president through a ballot election.

Article 3 Section 5 - Salaries – get rid of shall – use on or before. First sentence takes care of the issue 1951 reference point is for historical purposes

All members of the Commission agreed to adjourn



Ron Balbier, Chairperson



Jill Ludwig, Secretary